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Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original)   In a computer-implemented system, a method for group collaboration through associative filing, in projects, of electronic information including at least one of structured and unstructured electronic data, documentation, and other information, cooperative with native applications that manipulate items comprising the electronic information, said group collaboration method comprising at least one of the sequential, non-sequential, and sequence independent steps of:

     (A)   storing at least one project of a plurality of projects, the project referencing a plurality of items;

     (B)   associating at least one team having at least one member with the at least one project;

     (C)   assigning at least one of a plurality of users as the at least one member of the at least one team;

     (D)   storing the at least one team in association with the at least one project; and

     (E)   displaying information characterizing the at least one project and the at least one team associated therewith.

2. (Original)   The method of claim 1, the project being assigned to one of a plurality of project types, each of the project types being associated with at least a portion of the plurality of users, the users assigned as the at least one member of the at least one team being limited to the at least a portion of the plurality of users associated with the project type assigned to the at least one project.

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3. (Original)   The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of associating at least one functionality, task, job or role with the at least one of the plurality of users assigned to the at least one team.

4. (Original)   The method of claim 3, the project being assigned to one of a plurality of project types, each functionality, task, job or role of each of the project types being associated with at least a portion of the plurality of users, the users assigned to the at least one functionality, task, job or role of the at least one team being limited to the at least a portion of the plurality of users associated with the at least one functionality, task, job or role of the project type assigned to the at least one project.

5. (Original)   The method of claim 4, further comprising the step of redefining the at least one member assigned to the at least one team, wherein redefining further comprises at least one of: removing at least one user from the at least one team, assigning at least one user as the at least one member of the at least one team, and reassigning at least one user in at least one functionality, task, job or role associated with the at least one team.

6. (Original)   The method of claim 4, wherein the at least one functionality, task, job or role includes at least one of: a project team member, an internal team member, an external team member, a project owner, and a user-defined role.

7. (Original)   The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of redefining the at least one member assigned to the at least one team.

8. (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of users are selected from items in cooperation with at least one native application associated therewith to provide contact information for at least a portion of the plurality of users.

9. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 8, wherein the native application includes at least one of: e-mail, and an address book, and Outlook Contacts.

10. (Original)   The method of claim 1, further comprising at least one of selecting a project and listing the plurality of items in the project, and responsive to a selection of at least

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one of the plurality of items, displaying information characterizing the item, via a native application cooperating therewith.

11. (Original)   The method of claim 1, the at least one user being associated with a plurality of teams on a plurality of projects.

12. (Original)   The method of claim 1, further comprising transmitting a message to at least a portion of the at least one member associated with the at least one project.

13. (Original)   The method of claim 1, further comprising notifying at least a portion of the users assigned to the at least one team of changes to the at least one project associated with the at least one team.

14. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one item is one of: a communication, a document, a transaction, an e-mail, a task, a meeting, a contact, a message, an image, music, ~~Outlook~~ electronic Notes, video, a multimedia file, an other native application content, and a project.

15. (Original)   The method of claim 14, wherein the document is at least one of: a text document, an image document, a resolved universal resource locator (URL), a bitmap document, and a digitized document.

16. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one native application includes at least one of: ~~Outlook®~~messaging and collaboration application, ~~PowerPoint®~~presentation graphics application, ~~Excel®~~spreadsheet application, ~~Word®~~word processing application, ~~Windows® Explorer~~graphical file management application, ~~Internet Explorer®~~graphical web browser, ~~Adobe® Acrobat~~portable document converter and reader, and ~~WinZip®~~file archiver and compressor; wherein a user interface for the at least one native application includes an extension to act on items and help information for acting on items; and wherein a toolbar for the at least one native application includes an extension to act on items.

17. (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one project is assigned to one of a plurality of project types, and a plurality of classes are associated with a plurality of items,

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wherein at least two items of the plurality of items have different corresponding native applications; further comprising determining at least one keyword for at least one class, associating the determined at least one keyword with the at least one class for at least one item, associating the at least one item with the at least one project, displaying information characterizing the at least one project and the at least one item associated therewith, selecting the at least one item thereof and opening the at least one item in the native application corresponding thereto.

18. (Currently Amended)   In a computer-implemented system, a method for group collaboration through associative filing, in projects, of electronic information including at least one of structured and unstructured electronic data, documentation, and other information, cooperative with native applications that manipulate items comprising the electronic information, said group collaboration method comprising at least one of the sequential, non-sequential, and sequence independent steps of:

(A)   storing at least one project of a plurality of projects, the project referencing a plurality of items, the project being assigned to one of a plurality of project types, and each of the project types being associated with at least a portion of ~~the~~ a plurality of users;

(B)   associating at least one team having at least one member with the at least one project;

(C)   assigning at least one of a the plurality of users as the at least one member of the at least one team, the users assigned as members of the at least one team being limited to the at least a portion of the plurality of users associated with the project type assigned to the at least one project;

(D)   storing the at least one team in association with the at least one project;

(E)   displaying information characterizing the at least one project and the at least one team associated therewith;

(F)   redefining the at least one member assigned to the at least one team; and

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(G)   at least one of selecting a project and listing the plurality of items in the project, and responsive to a selection of at least one of the plurality of items, displaying information characterizing the item, via a native application cooperating therewith.

19. (Currently Amended)   A computer-implemented system for group collaboration through associative filing, in projects, of electronic information including at least one of structured and unstructured electronic data, documentation, and other information, cooperative with native applications that manipulate items comprising the electronic information, comprising:

(A)   means for storing at least one project of a plurality of projects, the project referencing a plurality of items, the project being assigned to one of a plurality of project types, and each of the project types being associated with at least a portion of ~~the~~ a plurality of users;

(B)   means for associating at least one team having at least one member with the at least one project;

(C)   means for assigning at least one of ~~a~~ the plurality of users as the at least one member of the at least one team, the users assigned as members of the at least one team being limited to the at least a portion of the plurality of users associated with the project type assigned to the at least one project;

(D)   means for storing the at least one team in association with the at least one project;

(E)   means for displaying information characterizing the at least one project and the at least one team associated therewith;

(F)   means for redefining the at least one member assigned to the at least one team; and

(G)   means for selecting a project and listing the plurality of items in the project, and responsive to a selection of at least one of the plurality of items, displaying information characterizing the item, via a native application cooperating therewith.

20. (Currently Amended)   A computer-readable medium comprising instructions being read by at least one computer, for group collaboration through associative filing, in projects, of electronic information including at least one of structured and unstructured electronic data, documentation, and other information, cooperative with native applications that manipulate items comprising the electronic information, said instructions implementing the steps of:

(A)   storing at least one project of a plurality of projects, the project referencing a plurality of items, the project being assigned to one of a plurality of project types, and each of the project types being associated with at least a portion of the a plurality of users;

(B)   associating at least one team having at least one member with the at least one project;

(C)   assigning at least one of a the plurality of users as the at least one member of the at least one team, the users assigned as members of the at least one team being limited to the at least a portion of the plurality of users associated with the project type assigned to the at least one project;

(D)   storing the at least one team in association with the at least one project;

(E)   displaying information characterizing the at least one project and the at least one team associated therewith;

(F)   redefining the at least one member assigned to the at least one team; and

(G)   at least one of selecting a project and listing the plurality of items in the project, and responsive to a selection of at least one of the plurality of items, displaying information characterizing the item, via a native application cooperating therewith.

21. (New)   In a computer-implemented system, a method for group collaboration through associative filing, in projects, of electronic information including at least one of structured and unstructured electronic data, documentation, and other information, cooperative with native applications that manipulate items comprising the electronic information, said group

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collaboration method comprising at least one of the sequential, non-sequential, and sequence independent steps of:

(A)   storing at least one project of a plurality of projects, the project referencing a plurality of items, the project being assigned to one of a plurality of project types, and each of the project types being associated with at least a portion of a plurality of users;

(B)   associating at least one team having at least one member with the at least one project;

(C)   assigning at least one of the plurality of users as the at least one member of the at least one team;

(D)   storing the at least one team in association with the at least one project;

(E)   displaying information characterizing the at least one project and the at least one team associated therewith;

(F)   removing at least one user from the at least one team, assigning at least one user as the at least one member of the at least one team; and

(G)   reassigning at least one user in at least one functionality, task, job or role associated with the at least one team.